

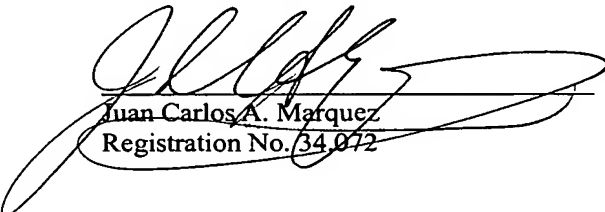
### **REMARKS**

Prior to the examination on the merits, Applicants respectfully request that this application be further amended as outlined above. The claims originally filed are being substituted with new claims in order to clarify the subject matter originally claimed, and to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject invention. No new matter has been added to the application as a result of these amendments.

In view of the above amendments and Applicants' comments stated herein, Applicants respectfully request an early and favorable action on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

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